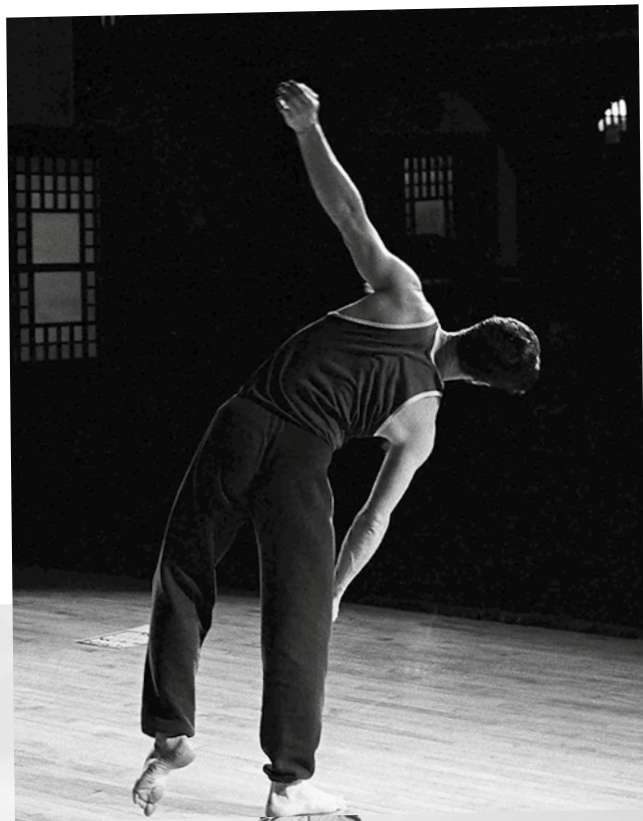


ENGLISH

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 2020



AZKUNA
ZENTROA
ALHÓNDIGA
BILBAO

Bilbao

CONTEMPORARY ART / EXHIBITION
DEC. 4, 2019 > JAN. 26, 2020

Lester Álvarez & José Ramón Ais

La verdadera noche

2018 Artistic Practices Residence



La verdadera noche

The artists Lester Álvarez (Cuba) and José Ramón Ais (Bilbao) have activated the [BAT Space](#) in [Lantegia Laboratory of Ideas](#), to share the result of the projects carried out during their [2018 Artistic Practices Residence](#), in collaboration with the [Artista x Artista](#) programme at Estudio Carlos Garaicoa in La Habana.

[José Ramón Ais](#) presents *Brillan en la noche*, a video-creation that records a fictional landscape made up of multiple Cuban nature scenes. A night time reveries lit up with 'fireflies and glow worms' created as a panorama. An image in which the atmosphere of popular stories merges with emblematic landscapes at the origin of the revolution.

The panorama, a pictorial device in which historical battles used to be represented, structurally similar to the panopticon, opens an analysis of the uses of the image, optical devices and architecture in the construction and propagation of ideologies. A magic lantern in which political, scientific, mythological and popular stories converge in an imaginary with multiple facets.

The exhibition is complemented with two projects of the Cuban artist [Lester Álvarez](#): *La Noche en Cuba* and *Viaje del Inquisidor Alonso de Salazar*. The first one consists of a series of watercolours created on the basis of night references, and particularly dreams narrated in Cuban literature published after 1959. The second one is an installation starting from an extensive report drafted by Alonso de Salazar about his journey through the Navarre mountains in May 1611, aimed at rebuilding his journey in the quest for certain 'evidence'.

JOSÉ RAMÓN AIS (Bilbao, 1971) Graduated in Fine Arts at UPV/EHU, he also studied landscape gardening at the Basque Government rural school. His project involves the creation of a photographic series that reflects on the construction processes of Cuban imaginary and landscape, taking as a reference historical facts, uses and exploitation of natural resources, socio-political changes, and above all, daily uses and the emotional relationship of people with nature.

LESTER ÁLVAREZ (Camagüey, Cuba, 1984) finished his higher studies at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in 2011. From thereon he started developing a career as a creator, which has enabled him to exhibit solo and take part in numerous collective projects. His work has received awards like the Tengo Frio Artist Group Residency at Emerson College, UK, and first prize at the IX International Biennial of Painting ISOLE, Sardinia, Italy.

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December 4, 2019 > January 26, 2020
Tuesday to Saturday
4:30pm - 8:30pm
Lantegia 2. BAT Space
Free admission

Workshop on their creative process
January 7 & 8
Tuesday & Wednesday
5:30pm - 8:30pm
Lantegia 2. BAT Space
More information on page 82

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In collaboration with:
ARTISTA X ARTISTA

Supported by:
Sabadell Fundación
The Banco Sabadell Foundation is sponsoring Artist-in-Residence Programme as part of its efforts to promote and disseminate art and culture.